

## ***THE IMPORTANCE OF PARENT/FAMILY VOLUNTEERING***

Swim meets require lots of work from lots of people. Parents and family members staff **ALL** swim meet positions. These positions include one referee, a starter, a computer person, computer assistant, a head timer, about 18 timers, three clerks of course, four strokes and turns judges, and four runners, all this for *just one whole meet*. Many of these are shared by the two-three competing teams and can be split into halves (someone works first half of the meet, then someone works the other half) as long as there are enough volunteers to cover. The fewer number of swimmers and family members on the team, the greater the commitment for each swim team. *What happens if the Ridgewood Swim Club (RWSC) team cannot fill a slot? Simply said we may have to forfeit the meet, which means our swimmers' hard work will not get recognized. So, yes, your participation is very important!* Volunteering also has a great impact on our children. It shows them that what they do is important to us and that we believe in their interests. It also shows them how rewarding it is to voluntarily come together as a group and make things work smoothly.

### ***Volunteer Pledge***

I understand that, as a RWSC swim team parent, that the success of our swim team depends as much on the commitment of the swim team parents and families, as much as the swimmers themselves. I understand it takes approximately 50 parents from all teams to run a meet and that I am expected to do my part to support our team. I understand that I am obligated to sign up **and** to work at least four shifts throughout the season. If I sign up to work a meet and for some reason I cannot, I understand it is *my responsibility* to find a replacement for my slot and that I still have an obligation to make up that commitment at another meet.

Signature\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_

### ***Permission to Release Information***

I give RWSC permission to use pictures of the swim team (which may contain pictures of my child) for display purposes on the team bulletin board, on the Ridgewood Swim Club website, Ridgewood Dolphins website/facebook, and occasional recruitment events.

Signature\_\_\_\_\_